

Appl. No.: 10/758,788

Amdt. Dated January 19, 2007

Response to Office Action Mailed October 23, 2006

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REMARKS:

Applicant appreciates the time and care the examiner has taken in examining the application.

10 *Comments on Amendments to the Claims.* In the amendment above, claims 14 and 30 have been amended. Claims 16-17 have been cancelled. The pending claims are 14-15, 18, 22, 26, 30, and 40.

Response to Claim Rejections.

15 1. *Rejection under Section 112.* Claim 30 has been amended to resolve the lack of antecedent basis, and the ambiguity of the terms "passes" and "is not detected." It is submitted that the rejection is obviated and should now be withdrawn.

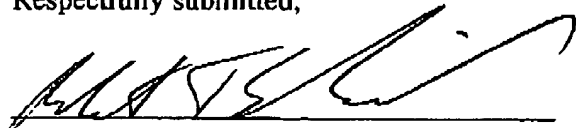
20 2. *Rejections under Section 103(a).* The examiner has held claim 17 to be allowable if rewritten as independent of the rejected base claim, including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, in the amendment set forth above, the base claim 14 has been amended to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 17, including the limitations of the intervening claim 16. Claims 16-17 have been cancelled. It is therefore submitted that the Section 103(a) rejections have been obviated by amendment, and should now be withdrawn as to the claims presented herein.

25 It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for prompt allowance and that all of the objections, rejections and requirements raised in the Office action have been met. Early, favorable treatment of this application is requested.

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Extension Request and Deposit Account Fee Authorization. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication, including any required fees under 37 CFR § 1.17(a) for any necessary extensions of time under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), which are hereby requested, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305. The Examiner is encouraged to call Robert J. Schneider at the direct number (312) 845-3919 with any questions that arise in connection with this application, or to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

Patent Application Ser. No.: 10/758,788
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Date of Facsimile Transmission: January 19, 2007
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I hereby certify that the attached correspondence was transmitted by facsimile on the date listed above, to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at the facsimile number listed above, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.

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Date of Signature January 19, 2007